3632. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) what is total mineral deposit in Orissa;

(b) the mineral exploitation per annum especially of Iron Ore and Chromite;

(c) whether the minerals deposits in the State are enough to meet the internal needs and also for export for another five hundred years; and

(d) whether the new mineral policy would increase internal consumption and discourage the export?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI B. K. HANDIQUE): (a) and (b) Information on the reserves/resources of minerals in Orissa and production details are given in the Indian Minerals Year Book published by the indian Bureau of Mines, a copy of which have been supplied to the Parliament Library.

(c) Consumption and exploration of minerals depends on economic viability and market forces. With further exploration the resources of minerals are like}.) to increase

(d) The new National Mineral Policy seeks to develop a sustainable.& frame work for optimum utilisation of the country's natural mineral resources for the induustrieal growth in the country. Export of minerals is guided by the Export-Import (EXIM) Policy notified by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry from time to time.

Funds to NMDFC for upliftment of minorities

3633. SHRI SYEDAZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation made to the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC) during 2006-07 and 2007-08;

(b) whether the funds allocated during that period were fully utilized;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the amount sanctioned was sufficient to meet the growing demand for upliftment of minorities;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) whether NMDFC is facing a financial crunch to meet its obligations towards the minorities; and

(g) if so, the steps taken or being taken by Government to allocate more funds to NMDFC for upliftment of minorities?